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TAGS:ETRD, JA, EPAP

SUBJECT: SUS FOLLOW UP - FOREST PRODUCTS MISSION

REF: TOKYO 10182

- 1. BASED ON REFTEL AND PREVIOUS THE SCHEDULE FOR FOREST PRODUCTS MISSION HAS BEEN FIXED AS FOLLOWS:
- -TUESDAY, JUNE 20 ALL DAY DEVOTED TO OFFICIAL TALKS. JAPANESE INDUSTRY GROUP WILL SCHEDULE THEMSELVES.
- -WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 MORNING NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION (MAY INCLUDE HOME BUILDERS ASSN.) INDUSTRY GROUP MAY ATTEND OR NOT AS DESIRED. AFTERNOON HUD INDUSTRY GROUP MAY ATTEND OR NOT AS DESIRED. 4:30 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEPART NATIONAL AIRPORT FOR MADISON.

- -THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT FOREST PRODUCTS LAB (FPL).
- -SUNDAY, JUNE 25 ARRIVE BOISE GOVERNOR WILL PROBABLY OFFER RECEPTION THAT EVENING.

-MONDAY, JUNE 26 - DAY IN BOISE DEPART 5:30 FOR SEATTLE. (WASHINGTON OFFICIALS PREFER GROUP STAY NEAR SEATAC AIRPORT AT SHERATON OR HAYATT HOUSE.)
-, ESDAY, JUNE 27 SLATLE

-WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 - HALF DAY IN WASHINGTON ARRIVE PORTLAND MIDDAY. OREGON OFFICIALS PREFER GROUP STAY AT BENSON HOTEL OR IF NOT POSSIBLE AT JANTZEN BEACH/THUNDERBIRD.

-THURSDAY, JUNE 29 PORTLAND. DEPARTURE AT 8:20 P.M. ON WESTERN AIRLINES FOR VANCOUVER. (OREGON OFFICIALS HAVE SCHEDULED GROUP UNTIL FLIGHT TIME.)

2. TO FOCUS TALKS WE PROPOSE FOLLOWING GENERAL OBJLCTIVE.

A. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FOREST PRODUCTS DISCUSSIONS IS TO EXPAND AND UPGRADE TRADE IN FOREST PRODUCTS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES AS SPECIFIED IN THE STRAUSS-USHIBA JOINT STATEMENT OF JANUARY 13, 1978. TO ACHIEVE THIS GENERAL OBJECTIVE THIS MISSION SEEKS TO RESOLVE QUICKLY THE OUTSTANDING DIFFICULTIES RESULTING FROM DIFFERENCES IN LUMBER AND PLYWOOD STANDARDS AND GRADING RULES AND TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO THE JAPANESE MARKET FOR FOREST PRODUCTS.

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- 3. TO FURTHER CLARIFY THE POINTS TO BE DISCUSSED WE HAVE SCREENED THE 22 ITEMS LISTED IN MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD IN TOKYO ON MARCH 6 AND 7 AND PROPOSE TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN THE ORDER GIVEN. WE DO NOT INTEND TO BREAK BETWEEN MOC AND MAF ISSUES.
- A. CHANGES IN JAPANLSE STANDARDS WITH RESPECT TO WANE AND SPIKE KNOTS. FYI: INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT EXPECT GOJ TO ANNOUNCE CHANGE IN THEIR STANDARD TO HARMONIZE WITH US STANDARD. IF THIS IS NOT DONE MOST US PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE DOUBTS AS TO SERIOUSNESS OF GOJ EFFORT TO MEET SUS COMMITTMENT. END FYI.
- B. DISCUSSION OF PLYWOOD STANDARDS. IN MARCH GOJ INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF THESE STANDARDS. WE PROPOSE TO RAISE THIS MATTER AT "OFFICIAL" LEVEL THEN MOVE TECHNICAL TALKS TO FPL.
- C. REVIEW OF HONDA PROPOSAL US INDUSTRY HAS INDICATED THEY DO NOT WISH TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL. THIS WILL BE OFFICIALLY DISCUSSED WITH GOJ.

- D. DISCUSSION OF JAPAN AGRICULTURAL STANDARD (JAS) MARK THE US CONTINUES TO SEEK LIBERALIZATION OF THIS REQUIREMENT AND WISHES TO RAISE ISSUE TO PREVENT ASSUMPTION THAT US HAS ACCEPTED JAPANESE POINT OF VIEW. WE EXPECT ONLY A SHORT DISCUSSION UNLESS JAPANESE CAN PROPOSE NEW CONCESSION.
- E. RIGHT OF ESTABLISHMENT WE WOULD LIKE A FURTHER REPORT BY GOJ.
- F. JAPANESE HOUSING CORPORATION: HAS THERE BEEN ANY CHANGE IN CORPORATION RULES TO PERMIT GOVERNMENT FINANCING OF PLATFORM FRAME CONSTRUCTION (PFC)?

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- G. REVIEW OF HOUSING TRENDS IN JAPAN.
- H. IDENIFICATION OF POTENTIAL US EXPORTS WE HOPE TO DISCUSS "MARRIAGE" PROPOSAL THAT IS USE OF US LUMBER SIZES IN TRADITIONAL STYLE HOMES DISCUSSIONS OF THIS ISSUL WILL CONTINUE IN P.N.W.
- I. REPORTS BY BOTH SIDES ON TWO-TIER PRICING IN JAPAN.
- J. TESTING OF 3 STORY TOWNHOUSES PROGRESS REPORT BY GOJ WITH FURTHER DISCUSSION AT FOREST PRODUCTS LAB.
- K. REVIEW OF DATA ON HOME CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN US, IF NEEDED.
- L. REPORT ON MOC STUDY OF COSTS OF PFC IN JAPAN.
- M. FURTHER DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED US-CANADIAN-JAPANESE COMMISSION ON LUMBER TRADE.
- N. JOINT HOUSING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF PROGRESS IN DETERMINING FEASIBILITY OF USG PARTICIPATION.
- O. DISCUSS PERFORMANCE OF US FOREST PRODUCTS AND RELIABILITY OF U.S. INDUSTRY. TO BE CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE VISIT.
- 4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY DISCUSSING THIS PROPOSAL WITH GOJ AND REPORTING THEIR REACTION. WE ALSO NEED MORE DETAILS ON PARTICIPANTS, THE FIRMS THEY REPRESENT AND THE PROPOSED ITINERARY. WE THANK EMBOFFS FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO DATE IN WORKING WITH A DIFFICULT MISSION. VANCE

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